Sustainable Development and Post 2015 Development Agenda: Global Context and Regional Aspirations

Arab Forum on Sustainable Development
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Post 2015 Development Agenda and Sustainable Development

- Part 1: Global Context
  - Processes emanating from Rio+20
  - Intergovernmental and other Processes leading to Post-2015 agenda
  - Inputs to processes
- Part 2: Regional Aspirations
  - Where do Regions stand
Intergovernmental processes

- Processes emanating from RIO+20
- **High Level Political Forum** - provide political leadership, guidance, and recommendations for sustainable development, enhance integration of three dimensions of sustainable development and monitor and review implementation of sustainable development

  - 1st meeting in 2013, *Building the Future We Want: From Rio+20 to the post 2015 Development Agenda*
  - Theme for the second forum (July 2014) “*Achieving the MDGs and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals***
  - Starting 2016, HLPF will conduct regular state-led reviews on implementation of Sustainable development commitments and objectives

Intergovernmental Committee of Experts in Sustainable Development Financing

- **Objective**: Propose effective concrete sustainable development financing strategy to facilitate the mobilization of resources and their effective use in achieving sustainable development agenda

  - Final report expected before GA, Sept 2014
    - Total 5 sessions, *upcoming 4th session in May 2014*

  - IGC-SD organizes its work in 3 **thematic clusters**
    - Cluster 1: Assessing the financial needs, mapping of current flows and emerging trends, and the impact of domestic and international environments
    - Cluster 2: Mobilisation of resources and their effective use
    - Cluster 3: Institutional arrangements, policy coherence, synergies and governance issues
Open Working Group on SDGs

A 30 member OWG of the GA tasked to prepare a Proposal on SDGs

Holding regular and direct meetings with member states from March 2013 to July 2014 (Full involvement of stakeholders, civil society, UN)

- 19 Focus Areas formulated after 8 stock taking sessions,
- Final OWG Report, Sept 2014

Open Working Group on SDGs

10th session ongoing (31Mar-4thApr) for in-depth discussion of 19 Focus Areas in 8 clusters

| -Poverty eradication          | -Gender equality         | -Water and Sanitation    | -Economic growth         |
|                              | -Promote equality        | -Sustainable agriculture | Industrialization        |
|                              | -Education               | -Sustainable nutrition   | Infrastructure           |
|                              | -Health                  | -Food Security & Nutrition| Energy                  |
|                              | -Employment and decent work |                                      |                        |
| -Sustainable cities and human settlements | -Conservation & Sustainable use of marine resources | -Means of implementation | -Peaceful & non violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions |
| -Promote sustainable consumption and production | -Ecosystems and biodiversity | -Global Partnership for sustainable development |                        |
| -Climate                     |                          |                            |                          |
Joint Meeting OWG & IGESDF

Joint meeting during the third day of the ninth session of OWG, March 2014

Most prominent issues discussed by member states:

- South: Principle of Common but differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) should guide the formulation of SDGs; MOI, including a still valid role for ODA and meeting its commitments;
- North: selective, if any, application of CBDR; skepticism about mainstreaming MOI in SDGs, diminishing role for ODA and effective use of existing ODA; no place for sustainable consumption and production patterns in SDGs [US]; Focus on universal human rights, in particular no discrimination based on race, religion, class, gender identity and gender orientation.

Technology Facilitation Mechanism?

- Technology recognized as one of the key means of implementation in RIO+20 outcome
- SG report prepared on Options for a TFM in follow-up to Rio+20 outcome
- Four GA one-day Workshops in 2013
  - April 2013 Workshop 1: Technology needs of developing countries and options to address them: Focus on science and R&D capabilities
  - May 2013 Workshop 2: Technology needs of developing countries and options to address them: Moving from R&D to widespread adoption of environmentally sound technologies
  - 30 May 2013 Workshop 3: Capacity building to enhance the development, adoption and use of clean and environmentally sound technologies in developing countries
  - 31 May 2013 Workshop 4: The way forward: Strengthening the international architecture for environmentally sound technology development, transfer and dissemination
- No clear follow up
Other Processes

- GA special event on MDGs held in Sept 2013: SD at core of post-2015 universal agenda
- Setting the Stage for post 2015 Development Agenda: Three High level events and three thematic discussions hosted by PGA (Feb-Jun 2014)
- Climate Change Summit - UNFCC process and upcoming SG hosted Summit (Sept 2014)
- Planned negotiations for upcoming year starting September 2014

Financing For Development
- Upcoming 3rd conference in 2015 or 2016
- 6th High level Dialogue in Oct 2013
- Global Partnership for Dev. (Busan successor)
- WB & MDB Discussions

Inputs to the processes

- Secretary General’s Report on MDGs and Post 2015 Development Agenda ‘A Life of Dignity for All’ - 2013
  - 1) Universality, 2) Sustainable development (focus on extreme poverty, linkages), inclusive economic transformation, 3) peace and governance, 4) new global partnership, 5) being “fit for purpose”
- UNTT
- Realizing the Future we Want (2012) -
  - Three Fundamental Principles: Respect for Human Rights, Equality, Sustainability
- A New Global Partnership for All (2013) - Possible features for global partnership in post 2015 era
  - Some Recommendations: Possible stand alone goal on partnerships
  - Multi stake holder partnerships streamlined under each theme
  - Mobilizing resources for development: key component of partnerships
  - More inclusive and equitable global governance
  - Focus on vulnerable countries must continue (mentioned in Goal 8)
  - MDG 8: Choice of Indicators reduced level of ambition (important)
- Statistics and Indicators for the Post 2015 Development Agenda (2013)
**Inputs to the Processes**

- **High Level Panel** of Eminent Persons on SDGs - ‘A New Global Partnership’ 2013, arguing **5 big Transformative Shifts** to achieve sustainable development
  - Leave no one behind
  - Put sustainable Development at the core
  - Transform economies for jobs and inclusive growth
  - Build peace and effective, open and accountable institutions for all
  - Forge a new global partnership

- **Sustainable Development Solution Network** - June 2013
  - Report *An Action Agenda for Sustainable Development* (10 proposed Goals for SDGs)
  - *Global Compact*: 2013 report proposed 10 goals broadly convergent with goals proposed by SDSN and HLP reports

**Inputs to the Process
Regional Contributions**

- Inclusive high-level consultations at the regional and sub-regional level
  - Multi stake holder consultations in all regions on follow up to Rio+20 and post 2015 agenda
  - Output from Regional Consultations feeding into the global process of setting SDGs and upcoming post-2015 negotiations through respective constituency

- **Analytical Inputs**
  - Region-specific analytical reports on the gaps and achievements of MDGs - Good starting points
  - Joint inter-regional publication ‘Beyond 2015: The Future United Nations Development Agenda - A Regional Perspective’
  - Joint inter-regional publication: ‘Regional Perspectives on sustainable Development: Advancing Integration of its Three Dimensions through Regional Action’ (currently in print)
Where do the Regions Stand?

Africa

- Sub-regional and Regional consultations (Mombasa/Oct12; Abidjan/Nov12; Addis/Nov12; Abidjan/Dec12; Dakar/Dec12; Hammamat/Mar13; others)
  - Six Pillars: Structural Economic transformation and inclusive growth; science, technology and innovation; people-centered development; env’t’l sustainability natural resources management and DRM; peace and security and; finance & partnerships
  - Africa SDGs currently being revised based on issues identified in CAP
- Prior prep effort: Africa Reg’l Consultative Mtg on SDGs, Addis/Nov 2013
  [Eighth session of the committee on Food Security and Sustainable Development and the African Regional Implementation Meeting for the 20th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development]
  - Six SD priorities suggested: economic development; social development; environment and natural resources; institutions and governance; means of implementation; integrated approach to sustainable development
  - Twelve SDGs suggested: eradicating poverty, promoting sustainable agriculture & food security & nutrition, inclusive economic growth & acceleration of infrastructure development, environment...
  - SDGs to be built on MDGs and guided by CBDR
- Africa Forum for Sustainable Development (for 2015)
Asia and Pacific

- Sub-regional & Regional Consultations (Almaty/Sep12; Nadi-Fiji/Oct12; Bangkok/Nov12; Siem Reap-Cambodia/Dec12; Colombo/Feb13; New Delhi/Feb13; others)
- **Priorities**: Inclusive & sustainable growth; social protection; DRR; MOI, incl trade & global governance
- In-depth consultations
- Regional consultation on strengthening Income support for vulnerable groups in Asia and Pacific
  - Income support schemes, gaps in pension schemes and social pensions, options for sustainable pension schemes in AP (Mar. 2014)
- Consultative Meeting on Regional Cooperative Mechanisms: Effective Disaster Management and SD
- Asia Pacific Ministerial Dialogue: ‘From the MDGs to the UN Development Agenda beyond 2015’ (Bangkok/2013)
- Asia Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: Inaugural session, May 2014, Theme ‘Achieving the MDGs and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the SDGs’

Latin America and the Caribbean

- Regional Consultation on Post 2015 Development Agenda: Follow-up to the development agenda beyond 2015 and Rio+20 in Bogota, Colombia, March 2013
- **Colombia proposal**: A global dashboard with a core set of agreed targets and indicators for each internationally agreed goal - Countries develop their own speed and level for each target
- Caribbean Forum: Shaping a Sustainable Development Agenda to address the Caribbean Reality in the 21st century
- Some Regional Priorities:
  - Sustained, inclusive, equitable growth
  - People-centered development, Education, literacy employment
  - Enhanced/inclusive governance and stable global governance
  - Poverty eradication, specific focus on certain groups
  - Participation of all segments of the population (amongst others)
Europe and Central Asia

- Europe and Central Asia Regional Consultation, titled ‘Perspectives from Europe and Central Asia on the Post 2015 Development Agenda’ (Istanbul/Nov 2013)
  - Some key highlights of discussion:
    - Inclusion and equality must be at the core of sustainable development
    - Need to accelerate shift from brown to green economies
    - Social and Economic development: Education and Health
    - Strengthen social protection and Tackle gender discrimination

- Post 2015 Development Agenda Consultation on Water: Water Management & Water Quality, Feb 2013
  - Meeting drew potential targets and indicators on water
  - Profound technical and political debate and synthesize the discussions of two of the three streams of the water consultation: Water Resources Management and Wastewater Management & Water Quality

Arab Region

- Arab Regional Consultation on the post-2015 UN Development Agenda (March 2013),
- Arab Regional Implementation Meeting for the Twentieth Session of the Commission for Sustainable Development (May 2013)
- Arab High Level Forum for sustainable Development – 10 proposed SDGs addressing:
  - Extreme poverty & hunger; decent jobs; quality education; women empowerment & gender equality; healthy lives; use & management of natural resources; sustainable food production; quality housing & infrastructure services; peaceful societies & effective institutions and; global partnerships for SD
Conclusion and Way Forward

- Post-2015 for South is about implementation, implementation and implementation
- Aspirations of South, including for economic transformation, inclusive growth & social protection (infrastructure, energy, transportation, universal health coverage, quality education, SP networks, etc) contrast with reality of MOI (FFD, technology, trade)
- North – South classic discourse and divide emerging at global level
- Risk of least common denominator real for post-2015 agenda

Conclusion and Way Forward

- Global commitments need to be met
- Increased regionalism & SSC key in addressing South aspirations
- Innovative approaches on MOI needed in regions and South, including through innovative vehicles for finance and increased regional integration
- Regional Platforms, like AFSD, critical for addressing SD challenges in the regions in an integrated manner and associated MOI